

livable wages, is striking a responsive note with American voters.

Lois, we look forward to having you here in Congress working on the issues that people in your district and across the Nation really care about. Congratulations, Lois. We will see you soon.

PRESIDENT'S BUDGET DOES NOT AGREE WITH DECLARATION THAT ERA OF BIG GOVERNMENT IS OVER

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I often go home to my district and I ask my constituents: Is there any message for Washington? I would like to pass on some of the responses that I have been getting.

They say: Do not spend the surplus; do not bust the budget deal that you agreed to last summer; do not start any new government programs; do not create new entitlement programs; and do not add more people to Medicare until we first figure out how we are going to save Medicare from going bankrupt. Oh, yes, the big one is, do not raise taxes.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, I hear over and over again that the President's budget is going in the wrong direction because it does all those things that most people are opposed to: Taxes are raised by billions and billions of dollars, spending is increased by hundreds of billions of dollars, entitlements are expanded, and new spending programs are created. It simply does not agree with the President's declaration to the American people 2 years ago that the era of big government is over.

Mr. Speaker, the American people tell me that words mean something and that it is time that here in Washington we start honoring the pledges we make.

CONGRESS FACES HISTORIC OPPORTUNITY TO ACT ON TOBACCO-RELATED DISEASES AND CHILD CARE ISSUES

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the President came to Connecticut and talked about the many challenges facing American parents as they try to raise happy and healthy children. On one hand there is an epidemic of teen smoking. Three thousand kids start smoking every day, a thousand of whom will die from tobacco-related illnesses.

On the other hand, there is an appalling lack of affordable and quality child care for working parents in this country. Multi-State studies have proven that nearly half of the care in this country for very young children is of

such poor quality that it threatens their health and their safety.

Luckily, as the President said yesterday, we have a historic opportunity to act on both of these issues. By supporting tobacco legislation that stops this billion dollar special interest from killing our kids, we can make a difference.

We can save our children. We can save their lives and provide them with quality, affordable, accessible child care. I urge my colleagues to support our children and stop supporting the special interests.

PHONY SURPLUS WILL NOT END RAID ON GOVERNMENT TRUST FUNDS

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, just an aside. I understand that when the President was in Connecticut, that he was at a fundraiser at a tobacco lawyer's house.

Mr. Speaker, this is a riddle: If you are in debt but you balance your budget and have surpluses for 5 years in a row, at the end of that time will you owe more or less money? If you are an individual, you will owe less money. But if you are the Federal Government, you will owe more money, almost \$1 trillion more between now and 2002.

How can this be? Here is the ugly truth. There is no budget surplus. The so-called budget surplus is a figment of clever Federal Government accounting. In 1988, the Congressional Budget Office, CBO, projects there will be a surplus of \$8 billion and the national debt will be \$5.5 trillion this year. In 2002, after 5 years of balanced budgets and surpluses, the national debt will be \$6.4 trillion, almost \$1 trillion more.

The national debt will grow because the Federal Government does not count the billions spent each year from government trust funds like Social Security. Clearly, there is no surplus and the budget, obviously, is not balanced.

ABUSES BY IRS REVEALED TO BE EVEN WORSE THAN FIRST THOUGHT

(Mr. HEFLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, it is amazing what a little sunshine will do.

Political corruption, fraud, criminal activity and wrongdoing cannot operate in the light of day. When corrupt practices are opened up to public scrutiny, wrongdoers are held accountable for their actions.

The White House Travel Office abuse of power; the 900 FBI files of Republicans that were discovered; the entertaining of drug dealers and arms smugglers in the White House; the use of the Lincoln bedroom for fund-raising; dialing for dollars from the White House;

the selling of trade missions to raise money; the laundering of money at a Buddhist temple; putting \$25,000 price tags on White House coffees; returning over \$2 million in campaign contributions because they came from illegal sources. All these were activities that were not conducted in the light of day and had to be exposed by journalists and congressional investigators.

And now we have the IRS. The abusive practices of the IRS, known to millions of individual Americans, began to be open to public scrutiny last year as a result of the Senate hearings. The first rays of sunshine are starting to come through, and the IRS looks even worse than we thought.

Free people cannot tolerate any of these abuses, at the White House or at the IRS.

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THREE STRIKES AND YOU ARE OUT

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, we need a three-strikes-and-you-are-out law in Washington, and we can change this administration real quickly. And here is what I mean: Strike number one: 1990, the Congressional Bipartisan Budget deal broken by President Clinton; 1993, the President sets his own budget deal, broken in 1994 and 1995; now 1997, there was yet another deal, and Clinton is out to break it by \$56 billion. Three strikes; you are out. That should be what we can do to turn the budget around and turn around our fiscal picture.

Our spending right now is \$268 billion higher than during the Carter administration after you adjust it for inflation. Reagan cut the budget by 15 percent, and I am talking about domestic discretionary spending, but now it is up 23 percent over that. We are very proud that the budget is about to be balanced, but that is no excuse for continuing to spend. And that is what is going on.

Three strikes and you are out. Stick with your word, Mr. President. Let us surprise everybody.

DEVELOPMENT OF CRITICAL TELEVISION VIEWING SKILLS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring another example of wasted Federal education tax dollars to your attention. Through the Department of Education, we funded an education study entitled, "The Development of Critical Television Viewing Skills in Elementary School Students."

Our kids do not need Federal assistance to watch television to develop,